

CLAIMS

What is claimed is new and desired to be protected by Letters Patent is set forth in the appended claims:

1. A digital keyboard comprising:
 - a) at least one keycap;
 - b) means for displaying at least one of an image and text thereon, said display means is positioned on a face of said keycap; and
 - c) means for acquiring a command code representing a function from a computer software application and assigning said acquired command code to said at least one keycap, wherein said display means displays at least one of an image and text associated with said acquired command code on said face of said at least one keycap and said at least one keycap is selectively depressable by a user thereby causing said function to be performed.
2. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 1, wherein said display means is an LCD screen.

3. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 1, wherein said acquiring and assigning means is a computer program.

4. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 1, wherein said means for acquiring and assigning is able to acquire and assign a plurality of functions associated with a plurality of computer software applications.

5. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 1, further comprising means to input and assign a command code to said at least one keycap.

6. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 1, wherein said function is at least one of a keyboard shortcut, application tool, and application process.

7. A digital keyboard comprising:

a) a digital key field having a plurality of individual display fields;

b) means for displaying at least one of an image and text in one of said plurality of individual display fields;

c) means for acquiring a command code representing a function from a computer software application and assigning said acquired command code to one of said plurality of individual display fields, wherein said display means displays at least one of an image and text associated with said acquired command code in said one of said plurality of individual display fields and said one of said plurality of individual display fields is selectively activated by a user thereby causing said function to be performed.

8. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 7, wherein said display means is an LCD screen.

9. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 7, wherein said acquiring and assigning means is a computer program.

10. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 7, wherein said means for acquiring and assigning is able to acquire and assign a plurality of functions associated with a plurality of computer software applications.

11. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 7 further comprising means to input and assign a command code to one of said plurality of individual display fields.

12. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 9, wherein said computer program selectively acquires and assigns said functions when the user changes the software application that is active.

13. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 7, wherein said function is at least one of a keyboard shortcut, application tool, and application process.

14. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 7, further comprising a plurality of digital key fields.

15. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 7, further comprising an application display field for displaying at least one of a title associated with said computer application software, a title of said function associated with a respective one of said plurality of individual display fields, and a description of an action associated with said function.

16. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 14, further comprising a plurality of application display fields, wherein each application display field is positioned adjacent to a respective one of said digital key fields.

17. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 7 further comprising at least one keycap having a display positioned on a face thereof, wherein said acquiring and assigning means acquires a command code representing second function from the computer software application and assigns said second function to said at least keycap.

18. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 7, wherein said individual display fields are of equal size.

19. The digital keyboard as recited in claim 7, wherein said individual display fields are of unequal size.